



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

2 SEPTEMBER 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Northridge – Man Arrested for Bomb Threat at Shopping Mall

(U) The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) Bomb Squad gave the “all clear” after an hours-long bomb threat investigation Wednesday at a Northridge mall. A man issued a bomb threat while in the upper level of the Northridge Fashion Center, just before 1 p.m. According to the LAPD, mall security followed him, and he was arrested by officers nearby. The man had been carrying a bag, which was left in the parking lot. Police say the bomb squad was called to check the bag.

SOURCE: 1 September 2021, [CBS LA](#)

(U) Sacramento – California Students in Afghanistan Unaccounted For

(U) Officials say more than 30 California children are still stuck in Afghanistan after they traveled to the country to see relatives, weeks before the Taliban seized power and were unable to get out before US forces left. Officials with three school districts in the Sacramento and San Diego areas where the children are enrolled say they have been in contact with the families and report they fear having been forgotten by the US government. Nearly all of the children returned to Afghanistan with one or both of their parents in the spring or early summer to see relatives. The US ended its evacuation efforts on Monday and withdrew to end 20-years of war in Afghanistan.

SOURCE: 1 September 2021, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Sacramento – 18 Arrested in Child Sex Predator Sting

(U) A child sex predator sting resulted in 18 men from ages 19-57 being arrested from around the Sacramento region, authorities announced yesterday. The men were booked into the Sacramento County Main Jail on several felony charges relating to arranging to meet with a child for sex. According to the Sacramento County Sheriff’s Office, the arrests happened between 23-27 August as a result of an undercover sting dubbed Operation Catch-A-Predator.

SOURCE: 1 September 2021, [CBS Sacramento](#)

(U) San Diego – Tijuana Man Sentenced for Recruiting Teenagers as Drug Mules

(U) A man from Tijuana was sentenced to federal prison Monday for running a drug-smuggling cell that used Mexican teenagers who attended high school in San Diego as cross-border couriers. Osvaldo Mendivil Tamayo, 22, pleaded guilty last year to two counts of conspiracy to import and distribute cocaine, heroin, fentanyl, and methamphetamine. A federal judge sentenced him Monday to seven-years and one-month in prison and ordered him to pay a \$50,000 fine. According to federal prosecutors and court documents, Mendivil used the social media application Snapchat to conduct much of his business. Investigators wiretapped his Snapchat account, and within weeks intercepted images of tables stacked high with bricks of drugs, and close-up shots showing the quality of the narcotics.

SOURCE: 1 September 2021, [The San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Kentucky – 59 Victims Rescued During Human Trafficking Sting

(U) Frankfort – A multistate human trafficking sting has resulted in the rescuing of more than 20 victims

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and nearly 50 arrests by Kentucky agencies, alone. The 12-state human trafficking sting called Operation United Front was led by the Missouri Attorney General's Office and Missouri Highway Patrol. It is believed to be the first multistate operation of its kind, according to a news release from Governor Andy Beshear's office. Overall, 59 victims were rescued across the country and 102 suspects were arrested in connection with human trafficking.

SOURCE: 1 September 2021, [WLKY](#)

(U) South Carolina – 13 Gang Members Arrested for Drug and Weapons Charges

(U) Charleston – A multi-agency team of state and local law enforcement officers yesterday announced that charges have been brought against 13 individuals as part of a months-long investigation. According to Acting US Attorney for the District of South Carolina, M. Rhett Dehart, nine of the 13 individuals were taken into custody “for their roles in an alleged drug trafficking conspiracy that operated in the Charleston area.” The arrests are connected to a federal case “targeting alleged members of the violent street gang, West Cash.” Investigators believe that from September 2016 forward, “six of the thirteen defendants conspired to possess and distribute cocaine, crack cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, and marijuana.” Many of the suspects are also facing charges for lying to gun dealers in order to purchase firearms, including an AR 15 pistol, FN 5.7 pistols, and a Glock 29.

SOURCE: 2 September 2021, [Count on 2 News](#)

(U) Virginia – UK Born ISIS Member of “the Beatles” to Plead Guilty to Terrorism Charges

(U) Alexandria – A British-born man who was a member of the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham's (ISIS) four-man team in Syria nicknamed "The Beatles" accused of beheading American hostages is due to plead guilty today to US criminal charges, according to a federal court record. A docket entry for the US District Court in Alexandria, Virginia, showed a change of plea hearing was scheduled today for Alexandria Kotey, one of two remaining ISIS members who had been held in Iraq by the US military before being flown to the US to face trial on terrorism charges. The two men are accused of detaining or killing multiple Western hostages, including US journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff, and aid workers Kayla Mueller and Peter Kassig. The cell allegedly took part in graphic ISIS videos posted online showing beheadings of foreign hostages.

SOURCE: 2 September 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Nigeria – Gunmen Kidnap at Least 73 Students in Attack on School

(U) Lagos – Gunmen abducted 73 students in yet another school attack in northwestern Nigeria yesterday, prompting authorities to close all primary and secondary schools across Zamfara state, police said. The new kidnappings came just days after three other groups of hostages were freed when large ransom payments were reportedly made, raising hopes that other captives might soon be freed, too. Attackers descended upon the Government Day Secondary School in the remote village of Kaya around noon Wednesday, a local resident said. The kidnappers then began shooting into the air before taking the students, he said.

SOURCE: 1 September 2021, [Associated Press](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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